

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 01898 101046Z

43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /109 W

----- 085669

R 100951Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1403

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1898

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJ: LIBYAN AMBASSADOR ON US-LIBYAN RELATIONS

1. DURING BRASILIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION ON SEPT 7,  
DCM SCOTES HAD BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH LIBYAN AMBASSADOR  
AHMAD ABD AL-SALAM BEN KHAYAL CONCERNING CURRENT STATE  
OF US-LIBYAN RELATIONS. LATTER TOOK INITIATIVE TO  
ASK IF DCM HAD HEARD OF PRESIDENT FORD'S RECENT  
MESSAGE TO COLONEL KHADDAFI. HE CONTINUED THAT THIS  
MESSAGE WAS "GOOD MOVE" ON PART OF USG. HE CONTINUED  
THAT HE HAS HEARD LIBYAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO IMPROVE  
RELATIONS WITH USG BUT HAS NOT FOUND WAY TO DO SO. HE  
ADDED THAT IN THIS CONNECTION HE HAS HEARD THAT PRINCE  
FAHD IS PLAYING MEDIATING ROLE. LIBYAN AMBASSADOR  
WENT ON TO EXPRESS HOPE THAT SOME WAY COULD BE FOUND  
FOR RELATIONS TO IMPROVE WITHOUT BOTH SIDES FEELING  
THAT THEY HAD TO MAKE FIRST MOVE. HE NOTED THAT  
AT PRESENT TIME LIBYAN GOVERNMENT IS RECALLING MANY  
AMBASSADORS FOR CONSULATION AND REAPPOINTMENT AND  
MAYBE IT COULD BE WORKED OUT TO REAPPOINT SIMULTANEOUSLY  
AMBASSADORS IN BOTH WASHINGTON AND TRIPOLI IN THE  
CONTEXT OF THIS LIBYAN REORGANIZATION MOVE. HE ALSO  
COMMENTED THAT USG MUST APPRECIATE THAT "OUR LEADER-

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PAGE 02 DAMASC 01898 101046Z

SHIP IS YOUNG AND INEXPERIENCED" AND FOR THIS REASON

USG SHOULD BE "PATIENT" WITH LIBYANS. HE CONCLUDED THAT SHOULD USG DECIDE TO APPOINT NEW AMBASSADOR TO TRIPOLI HE SHOULD DEFINITELY BE AN ARABIST.

2. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR KHAYAL IS A TALL, GOOD-LOOKING, URBANE GENTLEMAN IN HIS MID-30S WHO HAS BEEN EXTREMELY FRIENDLY AND ACCESSIBLE. HIS ENGLISH IS GOOD BUT PREFERS TO SPEAK ARABIC. HE HAS FROM TIME TO TIME BEEN A USEFUL SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS. WE BELIEVE COMMENTS ABOVE WERE MADE OUT OF SINCERE DESIRE TO SEE IMPROVEMENT IN US-LIBYAN RELATIONS.

MURPHY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974DAMASC01898  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740251-0615  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LIBYAN AMBASSADOR ON US-LIBYAN RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, US, LY  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005